

The I. W. W. is BASED on a RECOGNITION of the IRREPRESSIBLE CONFLICT BETWEEN the CAPITALIST CLASS and the WORKING CLASS

The Industrial Union Bulletin



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

"LABOR IS ENTITLED TO ALL IT PRODUCES"

Vol. I. No. 33.

CHICAGO, OCTOBER 12, 1907.

50c. a Year.

Work of General Executive Board Following Convention

Meeting of G. E. B. September 24, 1907, 2 o'clock p. m.

Pursuant to call by General Secretary-Treasurer Wm. E. Trautmann, the following newly-elected members of the General Executive Board of the Industrial Workers of the World assembled at Brand's Hall:

Fred W. Heslewood, T. J. Cole, Rudolph Katz, B. H. Williams, Wm. E. Trautmann, and General Secretary Wm. E. French.

Meeting was called to order by the secretary. Upon call for nomination for chairman, B. H. Williams was unanimously elected.

The secretary explained why he was not prepared to submit everything referred to by the convention to the G. E. B. for consideration and action, in such a shape that matters could be systematically disposed of at this time.

Motion made by Katz, seconded by Cole, that the board adjourn and meet again on Wednesday, September 25th, 8 o'clock a. m., at 212 Bush Temple. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING OF G. E. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1907, MORNING AND FORENOON SESSION.

LUMBER DISTRICT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The various communications referring to conditions among the sawmill men and loggers of British Columbia.

Motion was made by Katz, seconded by Katz, that the general executive board authorize Jos. Etter to proceed as organizer by way of St. Louis, Kansas City, Mo., Denver, Silverton, and other places in Colorado, through the coal fields of that State, thence to Salt Lake City and other places in Utah. Motion carried unanimously.

CONFERENCE OF MUSICIANS' UNION IN DETROIT, MICH.

Local Union No. 165 of Detroit, Mich., had addressed a letter to the convention asking for a representative from general headquarters to appear before a conference of local musicians in Detroit, Mich., stating also that the musicians had raised \$15,000 for the purpose of having an I. W. W. representative.

Motion was made by R. Katz, seconded by Wm. Yates, that the matter be left in the hands of the general secretary-treasurer. Motion carried.

CONFERENCE OF LOW-PAID WORKERS.

The old general executive board had approved of a plan adopted by the local unions of Paterson, N. J., whereby special organizations was allowed for workers who did not earn enough wages to pay the regular dues; the ruling of the general executive board was subject to approval by the convention. The convention again referred the matter to the newly-elected general executive board with power to make such dispensation wherever conditions warranted it.

After a thorough discussion of the subject matter, a motion was made by Heslewood, seconded by T. J. Cole, that the general executive board approve of the specifications adopted by the Paterson locals in regard to dues to be charged workers receiving less than \$50.00 per week, and that this rule be applicable to all industries alike for such class of workers. Motion carried.

LEAFLETS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

As the matter of procuring literature in several languages was referred to the general executive board by the third annual convention, his answer being in the affirmative, the motion was then put and carried unanimously.

Motion was made by R. Katz, seconded by Wm. Katz, that the matter be left in the hands of the general secretary-treasurer, subject to the approval of the general executive board.

ORGANIZING OF RAILWAY WORKERS.

T. J. Cole gave a brief review of the situation in the railway transportation industry, and contended that the time for a successful propaganda among railway workers had arrived, but claimed that no special efforts had been made hitherto to line them up in the Industrial Workers of the World.

Motion was made by T. J. Cole, seconded by F. W. Heslewood, that the general organizer be instructed to urge all organizers to be placed in the field, including railway organizers, to make special efforts to carry on organizing work among the railroaders and transportation workers. Motion carried.

ORGANIZING OF COAL MINERS.

As this matter had been referred by the convention to the general executive board, Fellow Worker Wm. E. Cole, of New York City, was called upon to give further enlightenment on the subject. He advanced good and substantial reasons why such an organizer should be elected, or appointed, to carry on the propaganda among the Jewish workers of New York City. He could, however, not recommend any man at present who would be well fitted for such a position.

Motion was finally made by Heslewood, seconded by Cole, that a Jewish organizer be placed in New York City, on recommendation of Executive Board Member R. Katz, who is instructed to make inquiries and an investigation. Motion carried.

ORGANIZER WALSH TO BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Organizer Walsh was called upon to appear before the executive board.

The situation and prospects for organization in the lumber districts of British Columbia were explained to him, and he was asked whether he would agree to work his way as organizer until financial conditions would permit payment of the allowance provided for in the constitution. Fellow Worker Walsh agreed.

Thereupon a motion was made by R. Katz, seconded by Heslewood, that Walsh be commissioned as national organizer, and that he be sent to British Columbia by way of Omaha, Neb. Motion carried.

PROVISION FOR LIQUIDATION OF DEBT.

The general secretary brought up the matter of the finances of the organization, and urged that provisions be made to liquidate all debts of the organization before any other plans that would incur expenses be considered.

After a thorough discussion of the subject matter, a motion was made by R. Katz, seconded by Heslewood, that the amount of \$250,000 be loaned from Roetgen and Hall, of Dusseldorf, to defray the expenses of the delegate to the International Congress, be liquidated at once, and that the District Council of Paterson, and through the same all unions and branches in that locality, be instructed to pay that obligation from the amount of \$5000 which they jointly owe general headquarters in payment of supplies. Motion carried unanimously.

ORGANIZERS—LACK OF FINANCES.

The necessity of placing organizers in the field immediately was recognized by unanimous opinions expressed, but after the general secretary-treasurer had explained the financial condition of the organization, it was agreed that above all the secretary should liquidate all debts from the incoming revenues, and then the matter of placing efficient organizers in the field could be considered.

However, there were several workers who would agree to take up the propaganda on a self-sustaining basis; and therefore it was agreed by common consent that all such proposed organizers be called upon to appear before the board and express their views on the subject.

A motion was made by Yates, sec-

onded by Cole, that organizers be put in the field as soon as financial conditions of the organization will permit. Motion carried.

Jos. Etter appeared before the board. After the situation was explained to him he agreed to take up the work of national organizer immediately, with the understanding that he could proceed immediately, providing he made his expenses by the sale of literature, and by voluntary contributions, until such time when the general office would be in a position to guarantee him the stipulated allowance as provided for in the constitution.

Jos. Etter having agreed to these terms, it was moved and seconded by T. J. Cole, that the general executive board authorize Jos. Etter to proceed as organizer by way of St. Louis, Kansas City, Mo., Denver, Silverton, and other places in Colorado, through the coal fields of that State, thence to Salt Lake City and other places in Utah. Motion carried unanimously.

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ORGANIZING OF SILK WORKERS.

Through the efforts of a few active workers in that place, interest in the aims and objects of the I. W. W. had been aroused among the hundreds of silk workers in that locality, and they were ready to organize in the I. W. W.

Motion was made by Cole, seconded by Heslewood, that Executive Board Member Katz proceed to Lancaster as soon as possible, and that the expense for that organizing trip be defrayed by general headquarters. Motion carried.

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Motion was finally made by Heslewood, seconded by Cole, that a Jewish organizer be placed in New York City, on recommendation of Executive Board Member R. Katz, who is instructed to make inquiries and an investigation. Motion carried.

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LOCAL UNIONS AS INFORMATION AGENTS.

In order to secure reliable information on the location of the various industries, for better guidance and direction in the organizing work, a motion was made by R. Katz, seconded by Wm. Yates, "That all local unions throughout the country be requested to submit a general outline of the land to general headquarters for the guidance of the general organizer in his work." Motion carried.

BETTER STOCK IN MEMBER-SHIPS BOOKS.

A motion was made by R. Katz, seconded by Heslewood, that the general secretary stands instructed to procure a better stock in member-ships books, when the present supply is exhausted. Motion carried.

ORGANIZING OF FLAX WORKERS.

As there are only four or five localities where the flax industry is established, and as the workers are organized in only one place, in Paterson, N. J., a request was made by the local in later place that special efforts be made to get the workers in the other places also organized in the I. W. W.

Motion was carried to leave this matter to the discretion of the general organizer, with instructions to ascertain through the workers in Paterson where the other factories in that industry are located.

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Motion was made by R. Katz, seconded by Wm. Katz, that Executive Board Member Katz proceed to Lancaster as soon as possible, and that the expense for that organizing trip be defrayed by general headquarters. Motion carried.

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CHICAGO, OCTOBER 12, 1907

ONLY THE WORKERS CAN BUILD THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH

To the establishment of the workers' republic, or the Co-operative Commonwealth, no consideration will be as important as the self-imposed discipline of the Industrial Union. On that day when the workers are called upon to assume charge of the mills, mines, factories, railways—the means of production—and supplant the capitalist mode of production for profit by the Social mode of production for use, those will come to them the task which they alone will be competent to meet. On that day the workers will face the consummation of their ideals and the readjustment of industry in accordance with the revolutionary requirements for which the Industrial organization has prepared them.

Upon them will depend the one socially important task of continuing the processes of production and the maintenance of the discipline in all departments which will be necessary to the most effective result.

The paramount importance of this task is seen when we reflect that politicians and parliaments would be utterly incapable of dealing with it if in advance there should be no preparation on the part of the workers themselves, the men employed in forest, mine, mill, factory and transportation service. The national industrial council, chosen from among the actual producers, actuated in all they do by the proletarian spirit and purpose, taking their instructions from their fellow workers, will individually outrank all politicians and collectively supersede all governments.

The politicians with a bill will make way for the producer with a plan. The grifter seeking an appropriation will be displaced by the industrial administrator seeking more efficient production. The distributor of political patronage will disappear before the distributor of the things labor produces. And in the new conditions the politician's function will diminish under the growing power of the producer. Government must in the progressive processes of the working class movement be transformed from the rulership of a class based upon private ownership of the essential means of life, to an industrial democracy administered by the workers themselves and based upon the social ownership of all the resources and means of wealth production whereby progress is maintained and civilization advanced.

The progress of the movement necessarily subordinates the merely political and brings the industrial administration more and more into active control. The workers triumph through control of the industries.

To lay the foundations of the Co-operative Commonwealth does not consist in parliamentary speech making, in delivering rhetorical outbursts through the open windows of parliament house, or in maintaining them in a Congressional Record. Something more than that is necessary. That something more is the economic organization—the workers united in mine, mill, factory, workshop, and transportation service, to take possession of and retain the sources of wealth and the means of production. Only the workers can do this—and upon their ability to do it depends the realization of the Co-operative Commonwealth. In the very nature of the problem political parties are subordinate to the economic organism of the class whose freedom is sought.

If then the working class alone can lay the foundations of the Co-operative Commonwealth, as Industrial Unionists affirm, it follows necessarily that the working class must prepare itself for that great undertaking; by its proved ability to lay the foundations it will become the accredited supervisor of the superstructure—the dominant factor in society, without which Socialism becomes a delusion and the Co-operative Commonwealth a will-o'-the-wisp, never to be caught.

With a clear, scientific understanding of the working class revolutionary movement, as well as of the problems which will confront it in the days that are coming, the Industrial Workers of the World organizes the workers for the task. The I. W. W. is the school of the proletariat, the economic organization that lays the foundations for the Co-operative Commonwealth. The workers of the world are in the I. W. W. They have no need to depend upon working out your emancipation. The Co-operative Commonwealth waits upon your action in unity with your class; if it is attained it will be through your efforts in the economic organization. To be prepared is your privilege. To fail in this is to leave the future to politicians, confusion, compromise and defeat.

IS THIS WHAT SOCIALISTS WORK FOR?

A daily newspaper printed here in Chicago, which claims to be the "first and only Socialist daily in America in the English language"—a claim, by the way, which all well-informed Socialists know is not true—has apparently set itself for the task of confusing the public mind as much as possible in regard to Socialism. The other day it came out with an editorial pronouncement on "What a Socialist President Might Do" with regard to some problems now confronting the working class of the country. This Socialist mentor says:

"He"—the Socialist president—"when these companies [the Western Union and Postal telegraph concerns] entered upon a career of lawlessness would be relentless in his enforcement of all provisions [of capitalist laws] that applied to them."

Again, "He"—the Socialist president—"would demand AS A CONDITION TO THE RETENTION OF THE FRANCHISEES that business be conducted uninterruptedly."

And again, "The rats would be driven from the government printing office and the conditions of labor made A MODEL FOR PRIVATE EMPLOYERS. (1) They would not only be a model, but by their influence in SETTING A STANDARD for others, that would force private purchasers of labor power to give over their rights to the class which operates them? Oh, no!—Ed. I. U. B.] to APPROACH THE SAME STANDARD." (1)

There you have it. The age-long conflict ended, the problem solved, Socialism in the high seat of president.

Give us a Socialist president to enforce all provisions of the law to the end that the Western Union and Postal companies could RETAIN THEIR FRANCHISEES and conduct their business without interruption (which they would doubtless be willing to do) and you have, as the editor says, "what the Socialist party is working for!"

Give us a Socialist president and he will make the government printing office a "model for private employers." Not only so, but the private employers and "purchasers of labor power" might be induced—in consideration of a continuance of their private ownership, we suppose—to "approach the same standard."

If that is not an abandonment of the fundamentals of Socialism, if it is not a cheap bid for votes to put a cheap grade of politicians into office, if it is an exposition of Socialist philosophy and economics, the "Lord help us," where are we "at?" And that, the editor says, "is what the Socialist party is working for!"

There's a big field for the activities of Industrial Unionists in America.

FUTILITY OF CRAFT UNION STRIKES

The Industrial Unionist considers the problems of the working class from the standpoint of the working class as a whole. As he knows from experience and observation that the craft union is injurious to the working class, that it operates to divide the workers and benefit the employing class, so he knows also that the craft union strike is often used as a weapon to crush the workers and cannot be regarded as a means, used by craft unions, to greatly and permanently benefit those who resort to it.

Impossible as it is to ignore the momentary phenomena of the class struggle, or avoid periodical conflicts with employers in the effort to obtain improvement in working conditions, it should always be impressed upon the workers themselves that they have little or nothing to gain by encouraging or inaugurating wildcat strikes. Better would it be for the toilers to perfect their economic organization and acquire the collective power to exclude the master from the plant, becoming themselves the masters. That is an object worth while, a goal that means freedom from exploitation. To vote to stay in the plant and operate it, is better than striking to go out and starve. When the working class gets wise, it will vote not for a petty strike here and there, nearly always to be beaten and seldom to be benefited, but for a strike against the private ownership of the plant—the means of production—by a master or a class of masters, who pay them enough merely to keep their labor power in working condition and outside of that have no interest in them.

Neither the craft union nor the craft union strike will ever liberate the working class. Essential to working class liberation is the economic organization of the workers, reuniting the craft union and uniting the workers in the industries which they alone are capable of operating. The economic management of which they must prepare themselves by discipline and education. When they are so educated and disciplined no power will be equal to preventing them from taking and holding the means whereby they contribute to the social wealth, and no power but their own will determine how the wealth they produce shall be distributed.

BECOME A SALESMAN

This week we begin the use of subscription cards for The Bulletin, and salesmen are wanted in all parts of the country. No inducement is offered to those who respond, except the one that will be all-sufficient—the building up of a paper owned by the workers themselves and devoted without any "ifs" or reservations to their interests. Before the close of this year the circulation should be more than doubled; that is to say, we should by the first of the new year have 15,000 paid subscriptions on the list. The way to accomplish this result for those who have not yet joined our corps of hustlers to get busy. The subscription card is an aid in successful canvassing. In the first place, there is a local union of the I. W. W. there are from ten to fifty workers who can be induced to take the paper. The rank and file of the working class everywhere in America want to know about Industrial Unionism, its forms and its philosophy, and the I. W. W. man who will get out among them can "do business."

The new sub cards are for half year and full year subscriptions—25 and 50 cents—put up in tabs of ten cards; each card is attached to stub, enabling the canvasser to keep a complete record of sales, and each "salesman" is given a number which appears on the cards he sells. An account of all cards sent out will be kept at the general headquarters, and all contributions credited as they are received.

So we want a "salesman" to boost The Bulletin list where you live. Send in your order for a supply of the cards. Use the blank form below and order at once.

Order for Subscription Cards

W. M. E. TRAUTMANN, G. S. T.
Industrial Workers of the World:
I am interested in extending the circulation of The Industrial Union Bulletin and wish you would send me.....
Subscription Cards as follows:
Cards for One Year.....
Cards for Six Months.....
I agree to sell the cards at 50 cents and 25 cents each, and forward to you all money received at least once a month.
Name.....
Street No.....
Postoffice.....
State.....
Member of Local.....I. W. W.
The Cards are put up in tabs of Ten, Half Year, Etc.; Full Year, Etc.; and must be ordered accordingly.

The Labor World of New Orleans publishes a statement issued by the American Federation of Labor in which the declaration is made that "the notorious Howard H. Caldwell and one Covington Hall," who, the statement says, "are two Industrial Workers of the World." This is like every other declaration of the A. F. of L. concerning the I. W. W.—it is false. The "notorious Howard H. Caldwell" is not, as he has been, a member of this organization. He is on the pay-roll of the United Brewers and draws \$50 a week for his "valuable" services to the working class. Covington Hall is a member of the I. W. W. but is drawing no salary from the I. W. W. for the work he is doing to offset the dastardly stabbing tactics employed by the A. F. of L. to defeat the brewers of New Orleans.

For the benefit of the billingsgate slingers and falsifiers who have so persistently handed out the dope that the I. W. W. has no regard for constitutions and never submits anything to the members for referendum, it is almost idle to point out that the I. W. W. has one submitted last year, which the docters who approved the negative thing sent out by the W. F. of M. "acting" officers did their best to belittle. Our form, as will be seen, is a referendum in the true sense. But if the reactionaries don't like it, they can do the otherthing—it's suits us.

Without wasting time or space on Bishop Potter of the Episcopal Church, it is well that what he recently said be recorded. This holy man of God and spiritual guide of "lost souls" referring to the Hague conference, said: "The Hague conferences are very beautiful. So are people's dreams—but not so good. Your dreams, no longer as easy last year, will there be a cessation of war." The peace of the world rests with the workers of the world. As labor forged the plough-share, so will it bear the sword to disperse standing armies by keeping out of them.

The pen picture of John Rockefeller, drawn by a former teacher in the family of the great impostor, is not offered as revolutionary literature, but it gives us an excellent view of the class of capitalist rascars of which Rockefeller's only type and comes from a source so authentic that it may well find a place in The Bulletin.

I am convinced that the organization of the Industrial Workers of the World is on bed-rock, and I know, irrespective of what this organization (the W. F. of M.) does or does not do, that the principles for which it stands, the purposes of its membership, are such that it will go on until it achieves the object for which it was brought into existence.—Vincent St. John in W. F. of M. Convention.

Mr. Algernon Lee, who made his entry into the Anamias Club of the S. P. by declaring that the I. W. W. delegate at Stuttgart had "half a vote" and was a member of the S. P. P., has recognized that his report was too bald, at least so far as

Stuttgart Congress

ALMOST On I.W.W. Ground

Extracts from Resolution adopted by the Congress on the Relation of Economic Organization to the Political Party.

"To enfranchise the proletariat completely from the bonds of Intellectual, Political and Economic Servitude, the Political and the Economic Struggle are alike necessary."

BUT

"The Unions will not fully perform their duty in the struggle for the emancipation of the workers, unless a thorough Socialist spirit inspires their policy."

Add to the Above:

That the INDUSTRIAL UNION, the Economic Organization of the Working Class, is of primary importance and must supersede the political state, and the World Movement for Socialism is clarified and INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM TRIUMPHANT.

the "half vote" is concerned. But he lets the other half of the lie stand, and will be allowed to retain his membership in the S. B.

A report of the cost to the State of Idaho of the Haywood trial makes a Idaho of 80 pages, printed in small type, and since the report was put out no money was spent about \$4,000, have been allowed. The cost to the State runs up nearly to \$150,000. In addition, there has been paid out by Canyon County, Idaho, in witness fees, \$30,000 more. The people of Idaho will have reason to long remember Gooding and McParland.

Max Rosenberg, Trenton, N. J. 5.00
Albert Polak, Passaic, N. J. 6.80
T. C. Joslyn, Springfield, Mass. 1.50
R. W. Smith, Hartford, Vt. 1.50
John G. Smith, Chicago, Ill. 4.30
Br. 2, I. U. 113, Bridgeport, assessments 18.00
Local 191, W. F. of M., Canna, Mont. 17.75
N. B.—Records of amounts received by the Hungarian Strike Committee from Hungarian Socialist Federation Sections, Hungarian Benefit Societies, and on collection books, tickets, etc., are in possession of that committee whose present secretary is Marton Gaal, 84 Pine Street, Bridgeport, Conn.

SAM J. FRENCH.

Society and the Individual

It has been well established that man is a creature of circumstances, subject to forces over which he has no control. It is a matter left, so far as he is concerned, entirely in the hands of Dame Fortune (fortune as to who he is and where he is born). If he opens his eyes to the light of day in the eastern hemisphere, and is born of eastern parents, he will adopt the particular conventionalities of his particular country or community; and he will believe (if the custom) in polygamy, and consider himself "hard done by" if he is unable to have as many wives as he desires. He will adopt unquestionably the national religion, and, if religiously inclined, will religiously perform the duties and abide by the ceremonies which his religion requires of him. If he is a Mohammedan, he will turn his eyes to the east as often each day as his prophet, and Allah his God.

If Confucianism is the current religion, he will adopt the system of ethics it lays down; or should he be born of some primitive race indulging in fetishism, he will adopt and worship the particular idol or idols holding sway in the community.

Should he be born in the western hemisphere, of Christian parents, he will adopt that religion and worship according to the particular sect in which he has been taught to believe; and like most others, will express his sorrow for the blindness of all other religionists worshipping and believing different to his own particular sect; and will consider polygamy a sin.

Socially, the same law operates. Should he be born of the "superior class," he will regard himself as being distinctly better than his less fortunate fellow beings of the "inferior class," as he would relatively term them. The method he will adopt to express this distinction is the right to live affluently without any effort of his own. He will pride of "blue blood," "ancestors," "superior education," and the like; and will believe that he possesses a right to appropriate his own particular use a large part of the national income, and pursue himself that he is so useful and necessary that society could not possibly exist without him.

Should he be born of the "inferior class," he will look upon himself as part of a vast machine, and entitled to work from the earliest possible moment that strength will permit until the time when, owing to the stress of age (about forty years), he will be discharged as unfit. If he is attached to a trade union or kindred society, he may receive a few shillings a week superannuation to keep body and soul together; or if not, and failing to obtain other assistance, spend the remainder of his life in the workhouse and dream of old-age pensions.

Were he child of a Mohammedan and the child of a Christian or the child of a "superior person" and the child of an "inferior person" to be transposed

in their cradles, and kept in ignorance of their nationality and birth, we should find them adapt themselves to their different conditions as though nothing really had happened, and the conditions of birth would apparently play no part in their lives.

The operation of this law is tersely put by Mr. Herbert Spencer as "the modifiability of human nature through adaption to conditions"; in other words, conditions make the man; change the conditions, and you therefore change the man. Socialism is a term expressing the recognition of this law. A Socialist is a person who has observed and appreciates the law, and considers that slumy houses, streets and alleys make slumy men, women and children.

Low wages means bad food and insufficient clothing, which in turn affect the physical, mental and moral natures of man. Bad education produces ignorant people. Dreary, drab, uncomfortable workshops produce dreary, drab and pessimistic workers, whilst good conditions produce correspondingly opposite effects.

It is in this that the Socialist differs from the mere reformer, whose failure is due to the mistake of attacking the malady and not the germ. To strive to make a thief honest by mere talk and a term of imprisonment is obviously equivalent to putting new cloth in old clothes, and so making the age conspicuous.

The rich man's shibboleth of "Be thrifty on a pound a week," has failed, and its failure is its condemnation. It is the recognition of this law which makes the Socialist large-hearted, so that he cares not against the world, but against the system and desires, not to drag all down to a common level, but to raise all up. He sees the inconsistency of the position clearly, and knows that not one of these evils need exist. Slumy dwellings do not exist because there is insufficient material and labor to build better, but because the landlord makes more profit out of them than he could out of healthier and better houses.

Bad food and insufficient clothing exist not because there is a dearth of these commodities, but because more profit is obtained by the capitalist thereby. The Socialist also knows that bad education does not exist because there is insufficient time, knowledge, and books, but he considers that, properly controlled, it is as cheap to print educational books as novels.

The Socialist aim, therefore, is to remove the present economic system, which is the root of the evils, and establish one which will enable us to obtain the very best that Nature can yield for all.



Industrial Workers of the World

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dustry.....1.50

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W. E. TRAUTMANN

Room 212 Bush Temple

CHICAGO - - - ILLINOIS

Competition and Exploitation in the Railway Service

BY W. M. J. PINKERTON

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(Continued)

They would have a standard of wages set for them, and no matter how high the prices established by the Trusts on the products of manufacture, of Mines, of food, and of clothing, the standardized government-owned railway men, dare not enter a protest because of offending the political bosses of the powers to be, and as a result loss of position, they could not demand an increase in wages to offset the increased cost of living. They might, as in the case of the "Postal Clerks," be permitted to petition Congress and die before their petition was even read. They could vote, but would be denied the right to participate actively in political affairs. They might be discharged for some trivial offence, perhaps for a fancied insubordination in concealing some fancied misdeed of a fellow worker, and be punished as were the soldiers in the Brownsburg affair, who, guilty and innocent alike, were discharged from the army and barred from enlisting again. With the bourgeois government-owned railway men their black-list would be a permanent institution, established in Washington, D. C. They would be forced to become docile slaves, surmounting their prerogatives to political machine of a middle class government, and if discharged would be forced to leave the United States to secure positions at the trade which they had spent their best endeavors and younger years to master.

That there is a fear of the growing power of Industrial Unionism is manifest in expressions from the political bosses, where semi-industrialism is likely to become a menace, or where it has shown itself a possible power. Wm. J. Bryan advocates government ownership of railways. Hill, of New York, of the coal mines, as a solution for the miners' troubles; and Carnegie is reported to have said that to preserve peace in the steel industries they must come under government control. This system of ownership would be a harvest for the present stockholders, and the workers would be overruled to pay the ever increasing interest on the vast sum of money now required for that purpose. It would simply be a reversal of the Union Pacific affair. The money to construct the road being loaned by the government and, after the interest amounted to the principal, was released to the corporation for the original amount. These issues presented as they are to the workers by the silver tongued oratory of those who would preserve the present rotten political system for the benefit of a few, demonstrate that the workers must use the greatest endeavors in protest against the gilded bait hung up for the advancement in the form of "The Capitalistic Government Own up" of any of the tools of production" which means a step to perpetuate wage slavery in the interest of Capitalism.

The workers should learn to propagate instead the doctrine of Industrial Unionism, whereby they can control the tools of production and medium of distribution in the interest of the human family and not of the few, as advocated by the Beyans, Hills and Carnegies. When the two cent rate becomes a general law, world will go forth from the industrial chiefs that operating expenses must be reduced, which means another addition of tons, freight train miles, passenger train miles, reduction of force here and there and if the "Capitalistic bouquet" in the form of "Government Ownership of Railways" is accepted, it would be well to remember that the owners of the railways are also the largest shareholders in the steel industries, coal mines, iron mines, packing houses, and petroleum products, which means a cheaper rate of haulage for the master, a low standard of wage, with higher prices of the necessities of life for the worker, and an increase of dividends for the Capitalist.

The Industrial Worker has no sympathy for such laws; to him politics is only a shadow to be relegated with all its corrupt methods to the unquenchable flames of an everlasting crematory, never to rise again, and its place Industrial Unionism will reign supreme.

Under Industrial Unionism everything would have its proper value, that is, its true value. Political laws made to protect crooked transactions, would as in the days of Lycurgus (H. C. 820) have no meaning. With the destruction of surplus value in the days of Lycurgus the following quotations from history will show some of the evils which ceased to exist:

"When this became current, many kinds of injustice ceased in Lacedaemon. Who would steal or take a bribe, who would defraud or rob? There were not even to be found in all their country either sophists, wandering fortune-tellers, keepers of infamous houses, or dealers in gold or silver trinkets, because there was no money. Law suits were banished from Lacedaemon with money. The Spartans knew neither riches nor poverty, but possessed an equal competency, and had a cheap and easy way of supplying their few wants. Their discourse seldom turned upon money or business or trade, but upon the praise of the excellent, or the contempt of the worthless; and the last was expressed with that pleasantness and humor which conveyed instruction and correction, without seeming to intend it. Like bees, they acted with one impulse for the public good. They were possessed with a thirst of honor and enthusiasm bordering upon insanity, and had not a wish but for their country."

A modern Lycurgus proposing such peace and harmony in the interest of a highly civilized and Christian people, would be classed as "undesirable." "Trade" value is that which makes thieves among all classes, whether it is the poor stealing for food or the financiers of capitalism robbing each other through the intermediaries, as reported in the Harriman case in the Chicago & Alton, when \$12,000,000 is supposed to have been ordered credited to construction expenses in order to find an excuse for borrowing money to pay on dividends.

A use value only existing, thievery and crime would cease to exist, as the following illustrations will show: The thirsty can drink freely from the fountain and obtain as much water as is necessary for their uses, without intervention, because it has only a use value. Give water a surplus or "trade" value and it would not be long before a Rockefeller, or a Harriman would have a fence built around the Great Lakes, policed by an armed force drilled in the use of the latest engines of warfare, just as it is with the Steel Trust, the Harvester Trust, and the Coal and Iron Trusts. Thus it can be seen that water, given a surplus value, also becomes a criminal maker.

Under Industrialism there would be a sufficiency for all. Such being the case, there would be no thievery, no criminals and no armed force necessary and the suffering of the human race through the overcrowded cities of capitalism would become a happy and contented people.

The worker's only object in assisting any political party should be along the lines of where the greatest good can be accomplished in hastening Industrial Unionism. It is a self-evident truth that the laws of the Capitalists are merely voting traps laid for the workers to prevent their grasping the full text and meaning of the yawning chasm opened for them in the form of industrial slavery into which they are quietly being snared by the Civic Federation combined with the American Federation of Labor, recognizing the rights of craft contracts made to expire with the various crafts at separate times, thereby rendering the motto of the worker "an injury to one an injury to all" a farce and of no moment.

The feudal slave submitted to an oath to sacrifice his life and limb in the interest of his master, and the prospective industrial slaves are being gradually trained in defiance of all laws, both state and national, to assume similar obligations as the following paragraphs abstracted word for word from rail way personal records, filed by the worker will show:

"Paragraph 28. Are you a member of any organization or order? If so state fully what organization or order you are a member of.

"Paragraph 29. Are you an officer of any organization or order? If so state fully your position.

"Paragraph 30. Do you understand that this company does not block all frogs, guard rails, or switches and that you must govern yourself accordingly?

"Paragraph 34. Do you understand that at some points on this line there are platforms, sheds, roofs, water tank frames, telegraph poles, bridges, sealed cars and other side obstructions, and trolley wires of street railway, which may be dangerous and that you must inform yourself as to the location of such obstructions and use due care to avoid injury?

"Paragraph 35. Do you understand that it is dangerous to stand erect upon cars and especially cars of extraordinary height, while passing over, through or under bridges or masts, trolley wires and other overhead structures, and that under earnings on time card, at which there are no tell-tales or other warnings, and that necessary precautions must be used by all employees to protect themselves from injury from overhead structures at said points while riding on top of cars?

"Paragraph 36. Do you understand that all employees are expected to protect themselves from personal injury by avoiding risks, and that those who may receive injuries on account of taking risks will have no claim on the company?"

On a great many railroads this form of application is sworn to before a notary in employ of the corporation, making the entire 41 questions a surrender of life and limb to the Industrial Lords. Why should the workers be compelled to ride on top of freight cars any more than on the top of one of the modern passenger trains and be expected, according to question 35, to protect themselves on a dark stormy night from being struck by viaducts, sagging overhead wires, they have no means of locating, until after they are discovered laying on the tracks a mass of shattered human flesh and bones ground out of all semblance to a human being and beyond power of any to identify?

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

What Are You Doing for The Bulletin?

Industrial Workers of the World

REFERENDUM REPORT SHEET



Local Secretaries will use only this blank when reporting to the General Headquarters the vote on matters herewith submitted for the action of local organizations.

General Headquarters:
212 Bush Temple, Chicago, Ill.

WM. E. TRAUTMANN,
General Secretary-Treasurer.

For General Secretary-Treasurer:

WM. E. TRAUTMANN

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

For Assistant Secretary and General Organizer: VINCENT ST. JOHN

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

For Editor:

A. S. EDWARDS

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

STRIKE OUT:

From Sec. 7, Art. II. (page 10) all following "entire membership" to end of paragraph.

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

NEW SECTION:

To Article VIII. (page 18) - "No member of the I. W. W. shall represent the organization before a body of wage earners without first having been authorized by the G. E. B. or a subordinate part of the I. W. W."

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

AMENDMENT:

Changing Sec. 4, Art. V. (page 18) - "The initiation fee for members of Local Unions shall not exceed \$5.00, and the regular dues shall not exceed \$1.00 per month."

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

AMENDMENT:

Add to Sec. 14, Art. III. (page 13) - "Provided said delegate is a member in good standing of one of the Locals so sending him."

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

NEW SECTION:

To Art. III. (page 18) - "All national organizers must be Members-at-large during the term of their employment."

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

STRIKE OUT:

Sec. 1, Art. VIII. (page 18) regarding pledge of officers.

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

NEW CLAUSE:

Add to 2nd paragraph of Sec. 8, Art. II. - "He shall have a voice but no vote in the governing bodies of the organization."

| YES | NO |
|-----|----|
| | |
| | |

The voting will close November 20, 1907, when all reports must be forwarded at once to T. J. COLE, Member of the General Executive Board, 212 Bush Temple, Chicago, Ill., who will canvass the returns and announce the result.

Local secretaries and presiding officers of organizations participating in this referendum will fill out the certification below:

We certify that the above is a true and correct report

of the votes cast by Members of Local Union

No. _____ Located at _____

in a regular meeting held _____

Chairman _____

Secretary _____

(SEAL)

Orchard Trial Postponed

The time-honored and threadbare farce of taking Harry Orchard to Caldwell for trial was gone through again Saturday. The fat and sleek assassin and all-round-criminal—the pet of Governor Gooding, Warden Whitney and the Pinkerton gang—was taken to Caldwell and the formality of continuing his case over the term of court, without objection from the prosecution, was completed within 11 minutes.

Orchard was elegantly attired as usual, freshly shaved and massaged, like a beau going to a beauty show. He was treated, as usual, like an honored guest, rather than the common criminal and brutal murderer that he confesses himself to be. Yet there are some people, a few now, who believe that this farce is in reality carried on in the interest of justice and good government.—Idaho Unionist.

"Whipping the sons of politicians or politicians' friends would endanger the teacher's job," says E. H. Boyer, of the New York Board of Education, in a speech before the teachers and principals of the public schools. "It is not the weak, miserable, defenseless boys who are whipped in public schools anywhere. If that is justice, let's introduce corporal punishment in our public schools at once."

This was the reply made by Principal E. H. Boyer to the call of the New York Board of Education for the opinions of teachers and principals regarding the need of establishing corporal punishment in the public schools. Boyer is principal of Public School 87, West Seventy-seventh street and Amsterdam avenue.

For This Relief, Much Thanks
The Supreme Court of the State of Michigan has handed down a decision which reads in part as follows:
"Workingmen have a right to fix a price upon their labor and refuse to work unless that price is obtained. Single or in combination they have this right. They may use persuasion to induce men to join their organization or refuse to work for certain individuals. They may present their cause to the public in a peaceable way, and with no attempt at coercion. If the effect in such a case is ruin to the employer, there is no re-

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